

open cast mining projects for which assistance from the World Bank has been sought. May I know from the Minister for how many units, World Bank assistance has been sought for underground mining and for open cast mining? Secondly, has the World Bank imposed any conditionalities regarding the manpower planning and closing down of some of the uneconomic mines?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):** There are three categories. One is the improvement of 34 mines, for which assessment and project profiles have been made. That is why I have given the information on that. The additional amount required for this purpose is Rs. 425 crore, out of which, we have sought assistance from the World Bank to the tune of Rs. 115 crores. The second category is about the open cast mines to which the hon. Member has now referred. The proposal has gone but we have not received any reaction from the World Bank. That is why I have not mentioned it here. In this category, we have three open cast mines, viz. (1) KD Hsalong Open Cast Mine, (2) Dedhichua Phase II and (3) Jambad Open Cast Mine. The fourth one is a proposal for fighting the Jharia underground fire. This is the second category as far as CIL is concerned.

We have a third category seeking for World Bank assistance for Neyveli where we have got five projects. There is no conditionality as such but when the World Bank gives us the loan they give us a particular time schedule for implementation. That is the only thing.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Assistance to Small Scale Units

\*311 **SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:**

**SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government propose to provide any assistance for the development of small scale units and for technological upgradation to improve quality of their goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of small scale units to which the Union Government have provided assistance during the last three years for technological upgradation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN)** (a) and (b). Policy measure for promoting and strengthening small tiny and village enterprises laid in Parliament on 6.8.91 are intended to impart more vitality and growth impetus to small scale units including productivity, quality improvement and technology upgradation.

(c) The total number of technical consultancy services and testing facilities provided by Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) during the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91) are 2,31,761 and 2,13,839 respectively.

#### Exploitation of Metal Nodules

\*314. **DR. R. MALLU:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had launched a project for exploitation of metal nodules in our seas; and

(b) if so, the results obtained and the expenditure incurred so far?